

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ADDIS 05302 061205Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
SP-02 NSC-05 DODE-00 PRS-01 PM-05 /060 W
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FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5495
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T ADDIS ABABA 5302

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG UNGA ET
SUBJECT: SECVISIT 32ND UNGA: INVITATION FOR THE SECRETARY

REF: A) USUN 2872, B) ADDIS ABABA 4343

1. IN VIEW DEVELOPMENTS SINCE REFTEL (B) DRAFTED, WE NOT NOW SURPRISED THAT FONMIN FELLEKE WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH SECRETARY, AND WE RECOMMEND THAT IF POSSIBLE SUCH A MEETING BE ARRANGED.

2. REQUEST FITS PATTERN OF RECENT EFFORTS OF EPMG AS WE PERCEIVE THEM TOWARD NORMALIZATION, EVEN IMPROVEMENT, OF THEIR RELATIONS WITH US WITH WHICH DEPARTMENT IS FAMILIAR (REFERENCE TO AN AMBASSADOR, DISAPPEARANCES OF ANTI-AMERICAN PROPAGANDA FROM MEDIA AND SPEECHES, PERMISSION FOR AMERICAN JOURNALISTS TO COME TO ETHIOPIA, C-24 VOTE ON PUERTO RICO, ACCESS TO CHAIRMAN). ALL OF THESE INCREASINGLY SUGGEST TO US THAT IN THEIR OWN WAY, ETHIOPIANS ARE TRYING TO REDRESS EVENTS OF LAST SPRING, NOT IN TERMS OF SHIFTING BACK TOWARD SOME KIND OF TILT TOWARD WEST, BUT RATHER MORE IN TERMS OF SHIFTING CLOSER TOWARD NON-ALIGNMENT, HOWEVER MUCH THEY ARE DEPENDENT UPON EASTERN COUNTRIES FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE AND CONTINUED POLITICAL/IDEOLOGICAL GUIDANCE.

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3. WE SEE FONMIN'S REQUEST IN THIS LIGHT. WE ALSO SEE IT AS RESPONSIVE TO WHAT EPMG NO DOUBT PERCEIVES AS SOME USG DIPLOMATIC SUPPORT DURING THEIR CURRENT TRIALS WITH SOMALIA (SUSPENSION OF OUR COMMITMENT RE ARMS AID TO SOMALIA, SUPPORT FOR TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY PRINCIPLE, SUPPORT FOR OAU GOOD OFFICES RE OGADEN). REQUEST THEREFORE TAKES ON MORE THAN ORDINARY SIGNIFICANCE. IF WE ARE CORRECT IN JUDGING

THAT REQUEST IS STILL ANOTHER TENTATIVE STEP TO NORMALIZE
RELATIONS, THEN WE MUST ALSO ASSUME THAT ETHIOPIANS WILL BE
MORE THAN ORDINARILY SENSITIVE TO HOW WE HANDLE IT. DEPT
HAS REPEATEDLY STATED IT WISHES CONCRETE EVIDENCE OF A
DESIRE FOR IMPROVED RELATIONS. WE THINK REQUEST, WHETHER OR
NOT IT LINKED IN PART TO EPMG HOPE THAT WE WILL YET DO
SOMETHING ABOUT AIRCRAFT SPARE PARTS, IS RESPONSIVE IN AND
OF ITSELF TO OUR DESIRE, AND SHOULD BE PRIMARILY SEEN IN
THAT LIGHT. ACCORDINGLY AS INDICATED ABOVE, WE HOPE IT CAN BE
GIVEN FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION.
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NNN

Message Attributes

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